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Information for Pesticide and Chemigation Rules

Below are answers to frequently asked questions to assist in navigating the new Pesticide and Chemigation Rule. The text of the new rules came out of the rulemaking process conducted throughout 2020. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at (208) 332-8605 or info@isda.idaho.gov.

Professional Applicator Licenses

Aerial Applicators (AA) Category		
Why the new category?	Changes to federal regulation.	
Do I have to get the new category?	If you are licensed in a state using the national standard (e.g., Washington), you can request a reciprocal license. Call us and we can help. There is no application or fee to add this reciprocal category to your existing license.	
What if I'm not licensed in another state using the national standard?	You will need to get the AA category by December 31, 2021. You can operate with an existing license that allowed aerial applications until then.	
Does this apply to Unmanned Aerial Vehicles?	Yes.	
What license types?	The AA category applies to professional and private licenses.	
Area and Space Fumigation (AF) Category		
Why the new category?	Changes to federal regulation.	
To what does this apply?	Common applications are commodity fumigation operations and using Aluminum Phosphide solid fumigant for rodent control.	
Do I have to get the new category?	Current Commodity Pest (CP)	No, not if you have current CP and maintain your license. The previous CP exam included AF information. However, if your CP licenses lapses, you will be required to get CP and AF in the future.
	Other current categories, including General Pest Control (GP) and Rodent Control (RC)	Previous GP, RC, and other categories did not test for competency related to AF. Persons requiring to use space/area fumigants for rodents or indoor pests will need to obtain the AF category by 12/31/21. You can operate with your current license until then.
Information for dealers	Current licensed applicators have until 12/31/21 to add the AF category to purchase space/area fumigation products including Aluminum Phosphide. If an applicator has an active license with a	

	category that allowed for the purchase of Aluminum Phosphide, those licensees may continue to purchase from dealers until 12/31/21.
Ornamental Insecticide/Fungicide (OI) Category	
Why are there changes to the category?	Compliance with competency requirements in federal regulation.
What are the changes?	No applications to structures, including spider barrier. These applications would require getting a GP category by 12/31/21. You can operate with your current OI license until then.
General Pest Control Category	
Why are there changes to the category?	Compliance with competency requirements in federal regulation.
What are the changes?	The GP will no longer cover non-urban rodent control using rodenticides. These activities will require Rodent Control (RC) category by 12/31/21. You can operate with your current GP license until then.
Other Categories	
Do I have to get a new category?	AH, AI, FE, RW, PH, LP, GP, SP, GV, RC, AP, ST, CP, PC, PC, CH, LPC, WP, SW, and DR are all similar to the previous rule. No need to retest if you maintain your current license.
On-Site Supervision	
Unlicensed applicator or applicators without relevant category	May apply RUPs with on-site supervision of a licensed applicator. Must complete Applicator Core Competency (CO), EPA-approved WPS handler training or equivalent.
Supervisor requirements	Supervising applicator must be physically at the site of application, must have visual contact with the pesticide applicator, must be licensed in an appropriate category for the application, and must be in a position to direct the actions of the pesticide applicator.
What are the changes?	Supervising applicators may not supervise more than two people during any application.
Why supervision of two people and not more?	Result of negotiated rulemaking. Change is consistent with Idaho Code.

Private Applicator Licenses

Private Applicators	
Does the new Aerial Applicator category apply?	Yes, see details above for Aerial Applicators (AA) category.
What is the new Space Area Fumigation (AF) category?	If you have an existing RU category and use RUP fumigants, you must also get the AF category by 12/31/21. You can operate with your current license until then.
Do all private applicators (including those that chemigate) have to take RU?	Yes, the RU exam covers safety information and is similar to the CO requirement for professional applicators. You will need to get the RU category by December 31, 2021. You can operate with your current license until then.
Information for dealers	Current licensed applicators have until 12/31/21 to add the AF category if they need to purchase and apply RUP space/area

	fumigants. Applicators with the RU license may continue to purchase space/area fumigation products from dealers until 12/31/21.
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Commercial Apprentice Licenses

Commercial Apprentices	
Why the new category?	Provides flexibility and opportunity to applicator community.
To what does this apply?	Ornamental Herbicide (OH), Ornamental Insecticide/Fungicide (OI), Agricultural Herbicide (AH), Agricultural Insecticide/Fungicide (AI), General Pest Control (GP), and Right-of-Way Herbicide (RW) categories.
What else should I know about this category?	Requires passing the Applicator Core (CO) exam to qualify. Expires on December 31 of the year it was issued. The category is specifically designed to allow the applicator to apply only General Use Pesticides with limited supervision by a licensed applicator.
Information for supervisors	Supervising applicator must be currently licensed in the same category necessary for the pesticide application. May supervise a maximum of two CA applicators at a time. Must maintain immediate communication (voice, radio, cellular telephone, or similar) with the CA applicators for the duration of all pesticide applications.
Professional Applicator Recordkeeping?	Recordkeeping requirements include full name and license number of the professional applicator supervising a pesticide application by a CA licensee. You will have until 12/31/21 to ensure records are updated in this manner. If this does not apply to you or your company, simply denote N/A in the record.
Information for dealers	CA licenses are not eligible to purchase RUPs.

What else should I know about the new rule?

When is it effective?	Beginning 5/18/21. Current licensees have until 12/31/21 to add new categories; ISDA will enforce new category provisions in 2022.
Why is there a new rule?	Result of 2020 Legislative Session and subsequent negotiated rulemaking. New rule reflects significant input from stakeholders as well as changes to federal regulation (FIFRA).
Wind speed restrictions	Pesticides cannot be used in sustained wind speeds that exceed the product label directions. If a pesticide label does not state a specific wind speed limitation, pesticides will not be applied in sustained wind speed conditions exceeding 10 miles per hour.
Law and Safety Category	Now called CO. Required for all professional applicators.
Nuisance flying insects – ag setting	Livestock Pest Control (LP) category now includes insecticidal applications to control nuisance flying insects in and around agricultural facilities.
Definition of pesticide drift	Rule definition: Movement of pesticide dust or droplets through the air at the time of application or soon after, to any site other than the area intended.

To reiterate, if an applicator has a current license with a category that included adequate exam competency for a new license category (see above), the applicator does not have to test for a new category unless the license lapses (did not maintain credits). If that applicator's license lapses, he or she would be required to take the exams for new license categories. For some new license categories, old categories did not test for some relevant competencies. In these scenarios, applicators have until December 31, 2021, to get new categories. Active licensees can operate with their current category until then.